

HONORING CARA FISHER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 05, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Cara Fisher, the Director of the Cañon City Public Library History Center, for receiving the 2001 Colorado State Honor Award. Through her diligent efforts of preservation in Cañon City, Cara has contributed volumes to our historical knowledge as well as revitalizing significant portions of the city.

Cara is one of thirteen children who grew up in a large house with important historical ties. At one point, an individual threatened to tear the house down. However, the family sought to obtain a purchaser and was successful in preserving the house. Stemming from this experience, Cara gained an appreciation for preserving historical buildings and this has served as her guiding light for 17 years in Cañon City. Her particular focus is on preparing grants for substantial projects, and she has been an integral person in numerous efforts for the city.

The Colorado State Honor Award acknowledges her persistence and dedication to her passion. Cara Fisher has dedicated much of her time to ensure that our past is preserved and not compromised.

Mr. Speaker, as we progress into the future, I would like to thank Cara for all of her work and congratulate her for being honored with the 2001 Colorado State Honor Award.

HONORING WILLIAM RAIMER FOR
HIS MILITARY SERVICE**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

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Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, many of our citizens dedicated their efforts to the success of our military forces. William Horace Raimer is the embodiment of service, success, and sacrifice and clearly deserves recognition from this body.

Bill Raimer was stationed on the USS Flying Fish—an SS-229 Gato Class submarine that was 311 feet long and carried a crew of 67 men led by nine officers—as a radioman. On the morning of May 29, 1945, the USS Flying Fish submerged and left Guam to an undisclosed location that was later revealed to be the Sea of Japan. The Flying Fish was traveling in a wolf pack called Hydeman's Hellcats, which were three groups of three submarines. The crew was charged with the duty, under the orders of Commander Robert D. Risser, of spending two weeks in the Sea destroying the remains of the Japanese fleet and any supply ships heading for Japan. Their path was laced with mines at various depths and different locations. As the submarine floated by mines, crewmembers could hear the anchor cables of the mines brush against the outside walls. Under attack by depth charges, the USS Flying Fish felt the shakes from the explosions, but was not destroyed. However, a companion ship—the USS Bonfish—was not so lucky and 85 men were lost at sea.

The USS Flying Fish was an integral part of the efforts to ensure the Japanese fleet did not succeed in World War II. Out of the nearly 300 submarines in that area at the time, 52 were sunk—a statistic that Bill Raimer remembers all too well. After the war, he moved to Montrose, Colorado with his brother 56 years ago. Although he was awarded numerous ribbons and medals, he is most proud of his Submariners Medal that was presented to him by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to commend William Raimer on his service to this great Nation. His spirit of patriotism added to the success of the Allied Forces and ensured their victory in the Pacific Ocean. While 3,308 submarines never returned home from the war, William Raimer was a survivor and is able to share his story with others. I thank Bill for his dedication and extend my best wishes to him and his family in the time to come.

HONORING HOWARD AND MARY
LOUISE SHAW**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

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Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Howard and Mary Louise Shaw for their generous gift which will help to prolong and improve the lives of countless cancer patients on the Western Slope. Howard Shaw, who recently passed away, did not let the opportunity slip by to set in motion the foundations for the Shaw Cancer Center. I would like to honor this great man and also to thank and recognize his wife, Mary Louise, who continues to watch the project progress.

For years, cancer patients on the Western slope have been underserved; patients in six counties have had no option but to drive across the Continental Divide to Denver in order to receive cancer treatments. As a result, patients were left stranded from their family and friends at a time when a strong support system is most important.

Mary Louise and Howard understood this need, and they decided to do something about it. They "jump-started the project" by providing over 2/3 of the estimated cost for the 60,000 square-foot, \$19 million Shaw Cancer Center, located in Vail Valley. Not only will patients be able to receive treatment closer to home, but they will have access to state-of-the art treatment. Reporter Kathy Heicher quotes Dr. Rifkin, the Director of Medical Oncology Services for the Shaw Cancer Center, as saying, "The treatment patients can get at the Shaw Cancer Center is as good as anywhere in the region. This is the opportunity of a lifetime for the patients and the people that will work there."

Mr. Speaker, thanks to Howard and Mary Louise Shaw, cancer patients in the Western Slope can receive top-notch care without sacrificing the support of friends and family. Howard's legacy has already taken hold, and his generosity will relieve many of the added burdens associated with not having local care. I would like to pay tribute to him and to Mary Louise on behalf of Congress for this invaluable gift.